

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA

SUBJ: SIXTH COMITE (LEGAL) - HOSTAGES

DELOFF IS TRANSMITTING TEXT OF FRG RESOLUTION ON HOSTAGES
ITEM WHICH HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO SECRETARIAT. FOLLOWING
CO-SPONSORING: AUSTRIA, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,
COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DENMARK, ECUADOR, ITALY, LIBERIA,
LUXEMBOURG, NEPAL, NETHERLANDS, SURINAM, SWEDEN, TURKEY,
AND VENEZUELA.

QUOTE: BEGIN TEXT.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THE "DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
AGAINST THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES"

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING THAT THE REPGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-
NATIONAL LAW AND ITS CODIFICATION CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES SET FORTH IN ARTICLES 1 AND 2
OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

CONSIDERING THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES

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PROCLAIMED IN THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, FREEDOM, JUSTICE

AND PEACE IN THE WORLD ARE FOUNDED ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE
INHERENT DIGNITY AND THE EQUAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF ALL
MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN FAMILY,

HAVING REGARD TO THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL
RIGHTS WHICH PROVIDE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO LIFE,
LIBERTY AND SECURITY,

RECOGNIZING THAT THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES CONSTITUTES AN
ABHORRENT AND INHUMAN ACT, WHICH MUST BE DENOUNCED AS ABSOLUTELY
INTOLERABLE AND INCOMPATIBLE WITH UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS
OF HUMAN CONDUCT,

GRAVELY CONCERNED AT THE INCREASE IN THESE INHUMAN ACTS
WHICH ENDANGER OR TAKE HUMAN LIVES AND VIOLATE HUMAN DIGNITY,

RECALLING THE PROHIBITION OF THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES
ACCORDING TO ARTICLES 3 AND 34 OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION OF
12 AUGUST 1949 RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONS
AND IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2645 (XXV) OF 25 NOVEMBER
1970 CONDEMNING AERIAL HIJACKING OR INTERFERENCE WITH CIVIL
AIR TRAVEL.

RECOGNIZING THE URGENT NEED FOR FURTHER EFFECTIVE
MEASURES TO PUT AN END TO ALL ACTS INVOLVING THE TAKING OF
HOSTAGES,

MINDFUL OF THE NEED TO CONCLUDE, UNDER THE AUSPICES
OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST
THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES,

1. DECIDES TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE
"DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE TAKING
OF HOSTAGES" COMPOSED OF 35 (37) MEMBER STATES;

2. REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CHAIRMEN OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS,
TO APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BASIS OF
EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND REPRESENTING THE
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PRINCIPAL LEGAL SYSTEMS OF THE WORLD;

3. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE TO DRAFT AT THE EARLIEST
POSSIBLE DATE AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE TAKING
OF HOSTAGES ON THE BASIS THAT THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES SHOULD BE
CONDEMNED, PROHIBITED AND PUNISHED AND THAT PERSONS WHO
PERPETRATE SUCH ACTS SHOULD BE PROSECUTED OR EXTRADITED FOR
THE PURPOSE OF PROSECUTION;

4. AUTHORIZES THE COMMITTEE, IN THE FULFILMENT OF ITS MANDATE, TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS AND PROPPOSAL FROM ANY STATE, BEARING IN MIND THE VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING THE DEBATE ABOUT THIS ITEM IN THE 31ST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

5. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO AFFORD THE COMMITTEE ANY ASSISTANCE AND PROVIDE IT WITH ALL FACILITIES IT MAY REQUIRE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS WORK AND TO ASSURE THAT SUMMARY RECORDS ON THE COMMITTEE'S MEETINGS WILL BE DRAWN UP AND SUBMITTED;

6. REQUESTS THE COMMITTEE TO PRESENT ITS REPORT AND TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SUBMIT A DRAFT CONVENTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN GOOD TIME FOR CONSIDERATION AT ITS 32ND SESSION AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO COMMUNICATE THE REPORT TO THE MEMBER STATES;

7. DECIDES TO INCLUDE THE ITEM ENTITLED "DRAFTING AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AGAINST THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES" IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF ITS 32ND SESSION.

END TEXT. UNQUOTE.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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